

DULLES GIVES CHINA A WARNING



SIR WINSTON

British lead could save the world, Attlee tells MPs



MR. ATTLEE

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injured by the Pacific H-blast would not have suffered in vain if that could bring home to people the great extent of the danger.

Pointing out that the delivery of the hydrogen bomb by aeroplane or by rocket was constantly being improved, and that its range was being extended, while the needs of defence against it lagged behind, Mr. Attlee said:

"We know that the United States has this weapon. We believe that the U.S.S.R. has it, and in a few years it may be that many other States will have this weapon."

"When I was in office the hydrogen bomb was considered as something in the remote future, but now it has come."

Mr. Attlee recalled that the Government's White Paper on Defence drew a picture of atomic warfare, supported by "broken-backed warfare," owing to destruction of communications.

"I think that warfare between States armed with the hydrogen bomb will be succeeded by a broken-backed civilisation."

"We have reached a culminating point in the matter of warfare."

"What was the effect of this invention?" asked Mr. Attlee. Did it make war more or less likely?

Recalling Sir Winston Churchill's statement that the possession of the atom bomb was a deterrent to war, Mr. Attlee said that since the U.S.S.R. got the atom bomb the force of that deterrent was lessened. There was the certainty of retaliation and, what was more, the possibility of anticipation.

"The more absolute the sanction the greater the reluctance to use it," said Mr. Attlee.

"Suppose an act of aggression took place say on the Burmese border, could one imagine the immediate use of the H-bomb

against a capital city in another country?

"It would amount to bluff, but the danger of bluff is that it might be called."

"Therefore, I do not think that the H-bomb will by itself prevent wars."

"There is a danger that people may chance making war in the belief it will not be used, and the threat of its use is very dangerous."

"I cannot think of any democratic statesman initiating this warfare, but one must always remember the difference between the democracies and the authoritarian States."

"The advantage for unexpected, immediate action is always with the authoritarian States."

Dealing with the suggestion that the results would be so devastating that no State would use the bomb, Mr. Attlee said: "I would like to believe it."

"THE FACT IS, THAT ONCE THERE IS A WAR IN THE MODERN AGE—ABSOLUTE WAR—IN THE LAST RESORT, IF THE EXISTENCE OF A NATION IS AT STAKE, ANY WEAPON WILL BE USED."

"Who can doubt, after reading Hitler's last days, that even at the very end of that war, if he had had the atomic bomb he would have used it?"

"The danger here is that obviously in the use of this weapon there is an immense advantage to the side that gets its blow in first."

"It would be a terrible decision for any leader to take to launch this weapon."

Mr. Attlee recalled that in the history of the Roman Empire there were quite a number of lunatic emperors, and we had only recently seen a great nation—Germany—putting all its resources into the hands of a madman.

There was no guarantee that in some country at some time there might not arise to power a fanatic who hated the

human race, or believed that all civilisation should be destroyed."

Mr. Attlee said he welcomed the fact that the Western Powers were seeking to call the Disarmament Committee of the United Nations, but he had not a very great deal of faith in the banning of particular weapons. He explained:

"The hydrogen bomb is a thing almost of itself, but there is atomic energy in its various forms, and the banning of one form exalts another, and so down the scale each time, with, perhaps, a different balance of advantage to different States."

"We are asking for high-level talks between the Prime Minister, Mr. Eisenhower and Mr. Malenkov, to discuss not just the question of the hydrogen bomb and of disarmament, but to discuss the problem that faces the world in the existence of the hydrogen bomb."

"What prospect is there of anything emerging?" asked Mr. Attlee. "I believe the minds of people all over the world are disturbed at this H-bomb explosion."

"I am sure that is true of the United States. It is true of this country, and I sense, from the recent note by Mr. Molotov, that it is also felt in the U.S.S.R."

"I THINK THERE IS A WORLD-WIDE FEAR. I THINK IT WILL GROW AND I THINK IT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO GROW."

"I want every man and woman in the world to be acutely aware of the danger that confronts civilisation."

Mr. Attlee ended with the declaration: **"MORE THAN ONCE BRITAIN'S COURAGE AND INITIATIVE HAVE SAVED EUROPE. BRITISH INITIATIVE MAY WELL SAVE WORLD CIVILISATION."**

There were loud and prolonged cheers as he sat down.

SIR Winston Churchill, who was also loudly cheered on rising, described Mr. Attlee's speech as "thoughtful and inspiring," and added, "we agreed with almost everything he said."

But Mr. Attlee had failed to bridge "the gulf between the awe-inspiring facts and the practical method of solving the problem."

It would be his duty "to give a number of unpleasant facts," said the Premier.

"We might reflect how we should feel if it were the

Soviet Government instead of the American Government which was carrying out this test series of hydrogen explosions, and was circulating to the world films and photographs of what they look like."

"Let us all thank God for sparing us that."

"It would be a dark day if the Soviet Government were able to confront the free world with this sort of demonstration, and tell us what they would like to do about them and about a lot of other things as well."

"It in no way detracts from the sombre picture Mr. Attlee has painted, but our present position is certainly not as bad as it would be if circumstances were altered, as I have suggested."

"In fact, I believe that what is happening, and what is going to happen in the near future in the Pacific Ocean, increases the chance of world peace rather than the chance of world war," declared the Premier.

"I also believe we have time, though not too much time, to consider the problems which now confront us and the whole world and talk them over in their new proportions, not only in public discussion but intimately and privately with our American friends and allies."

"That is, of course, what we shall do and what we have been doing."

He would not ask the United States Government to stop their series of experiments, which would go on throughout April, said the Premier.

If it were proved that a very large number of hydrogen explosions could be detrimental to the health of the human race it would be different. But our scientists were assured that this was not the case.

"There was a widespread desire among the American authorities and scientists to interchange information with us and with the Canadians," said Sir Winston.

"Nothing could be less helpful to us in our problems than panic and hysteria, especially when the actual physical results are all favourable to the free world."

"The House may rest assured that all the new facts that are being brought to our knowledge—and they are pouring in—are the subject of continuous study."

The Premier said that "attacks are being made on the Government, and particularly on me, in various quarters which I ought not to ignore."

Mr. Michael Foot, M.P.,

AMERICAN Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, said yesterday that the Chinese Communists were "coming awful close" in Indo-China to the direct aggression which, he has said, might produce "massive retaliation."

He was asked at a Congressional hearing on the foreign aid programme:

"If the Chinese Communists are firing guns in Indo-China, doesn't that mean the 'active participation' that you are reported to have said will bring retaliation on the Chinese mainland?"

'Not Technically'

Mr. Dulles replied that if the question referred to a speech he made last September, "I said then that if the Chinese sent their Red armies into Indo-China, it would be apt to produce action which might not be confined to Indo-China."

"Technically," he added, "they have not done the precise thing I defined. But they're coming awful close to it."

What the Chinese had done, he said, was to man anti-aircraft guns round Dien Bien Phu, the beleaguered French fortress.

WORLD NEWS SPOTLIGHT

leaguered French fortress.

A considerable number of radar-controlled guns manned by "members of the Chinese military establishment" were "shooting through the clouds to bring down French planes," he said.

'About 1,000 Lorries'

Another example of Chinese Communist participation, Mr. Dulles said, was the presence of their General Li Chen-hou at the headquarters of the force attacking Dien Bien Phu.

With General Li were nearly a score of Chinese technical advisers.

"Numerous other" Chinese Communist technical advisers were now operating at divisional level with the rebel forces.

About 1,000 lorries were "all driven by Chinese Army personnel" and about half of them had come across the border from China in the last month, Mr. Dulles said.

French Union defenders at Dien Bien Phu yesterday fought their way back into two outposts that had been overrun by the Communists. Fierce fighting went on all day.

It's all your fault, Mr. Barratt!



Here we were—having our first tiff since we were married—and all over a new pair of shoes. It's your fault, Mr. Barratt—your spring styles are really too bewildering. I wanted these enchanting little blue courts. My husband prefers these tan ones. However he's a dear. He's agreed to compromise and buy me both!

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